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THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The rent is determined by the House Rent Controller, and they are all subject to the House Rent Control Act.

* 34 *Q.*—SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Kapaleeswarar Devasthanam has constructed shops in the North Mada Street, Mylapore; and

(*b*) if so, (i) the number of shops constructed, (ii) the cost of construction and (iii) the procedure adopted by the temple authorities in the matter of construction?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) (i) 11 Shops.

(ii) Rs. 25,538.

(iii) The works were executed departmentally after calling for tenders for purchase of materials and on labour contract.

SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : How were the shops let out?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : They have been given to shopkeepers and the amount to be realised is Rs. 1,245 per mensem.

SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : My question has not been answered. How were the shops let out?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : They are let out to the shopkeepers who apply.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Are they given to the highest bidder or is any favouritism shown in this?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Unless in these matters a specific question is put as to how a particular shop has been let out, it will be impossible for Government to give information.

Fire accidents

* 35 *Q.*—SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR (on behalf of Sri K. S. Abdul Wahab) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of fire accidents in the State during the year 1962–63;

(*b*) the number of residential houses affected; and

(*c*) the relief measures taken by the Government?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : (*a*) 2,491.

(*b*) 1,191.

(*c*) A sum of Rs. 4,08,810·36 nP. was spent by way of grant of cash relief to the victims of the fire accident.

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Sri M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : What is the grant given to each house as it differs from place to place?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : The amount given in the case of each accident is Rs. 30 to rebuild or repair houses.

Sri M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Do the Government think that it is enough to rebuild the house or a portion of the house?

The Hon. Sri V. RAMAIAH : It is only as a first help. But if people affected by fire or floods apply for Government loan, they get about a thousand rupees per house.

Loans for House Construction

* 36. *Q.*—Sri M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Gazetted Officers, who have been granted loans for construction of houses in the City of Madras during the last five years, (i) by the Government; (ii) by the Co-operative House Construction Societies; and (iii) by the State Housing Board;

(*b*) the number of Gazetted Officers who have built more than one house; and

(*c*) the member of Gazetted Officers who have not occupied the houses built by them?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) The number of Gazetted Officers who were granted loans for construction of houses in the City of Madras is—

(i) by the Government—83;

(ii) by Co-operative House Construction Societies—25; and

(iii) by the State Housing Board (built houses)—121.

(*b*) The number of Gazetted Officers, who have built more than one house with the loan assistance of the Government, the Co-operative House Construction Societies and the State Housing Board, is ' NIL '.

(*c*) The number of Gazetted Officers, who have not occupied the houses built by them is—

(i) with the loans obtained from Government directly—No information is available;

(ii) with the loan assistance from Co-operative House Construction Societies—20; and

(iii) with the loan assistannce of the State Housing Board—All houses have been occupied by the allottees themselves, except in the case of 13 Gazetted Officers, who were granted permission to let out the houses allotted to them consequent on their transfers elsewhere after allotment.